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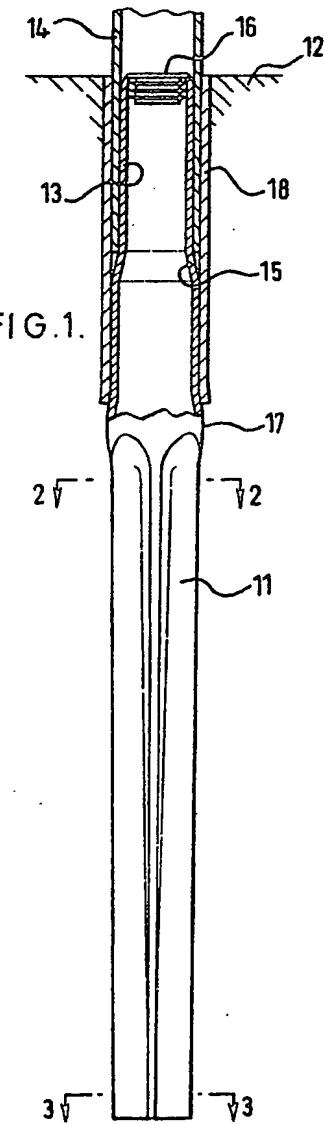
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(54) Fixing support for rotary clothes driers

(57) A fixing support for a rotary clothes drier which consists of a tube shaped at one (lower) end portion (11) to facilitate its being driven into the ground (12) and having at the other end a portion (13) of reduced diameter thus forming a generally upwardly facing shoulder (15) at the lower end of the portion (13) of reduced diameter, the arrangement

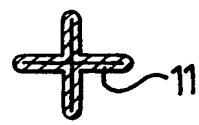
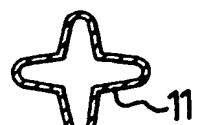
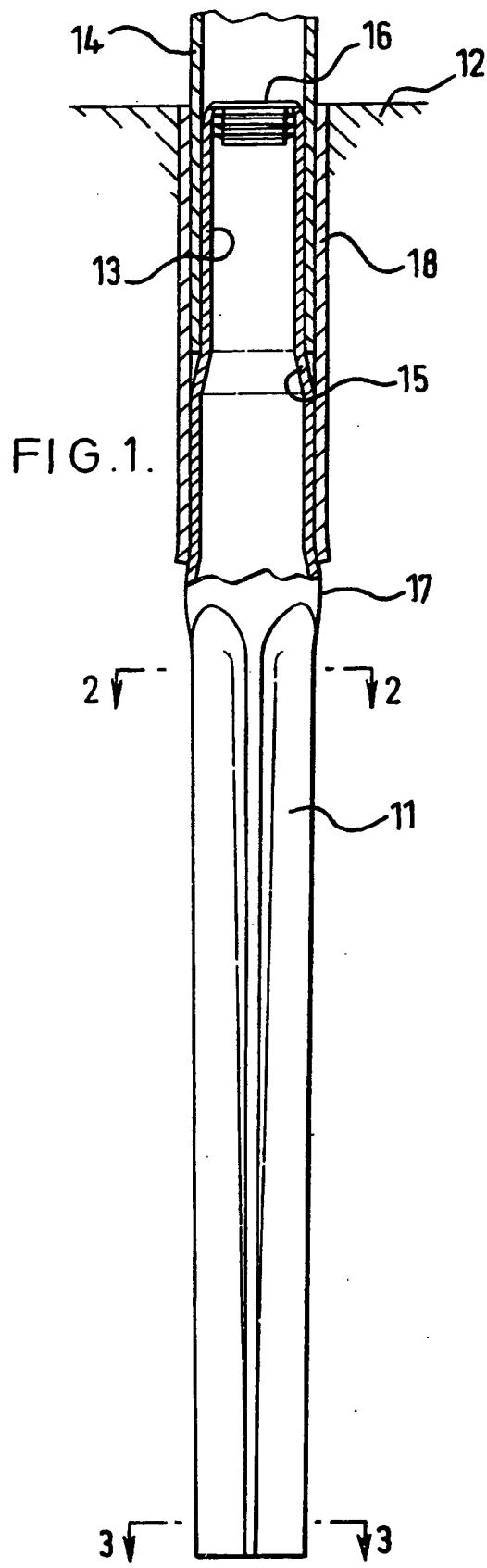
being such that in use the portion (13) of reduced diameter serves as a spigot to fit in the open lower end portion (14) of the central post of a rotary clothes drier and the shoulder (15) forms an end support by engagement with the lower end of the central post, an outer tubular shield (18) being fitted on the tube to surround the portion (13) of reduced diameter with a clearance for receiving the lower end portion (14) of the central post when in use.



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**SPECIFICATION****Fixing support for rotary clothes driers**

This invention relates to rotary clothes driers which consist of a central vertical tubular post 5 with radially extending arms, and is concerned more particularly with a fixing support mountable in the ground to fit the open lower end of the central post to support the post and maintain it in vertical position.

It is an object of the present invention to provide an improved fixing support for the above purpose, which enables a permanent fixing to be made in the ground without the use of concrete or similar materials, and without leaving a large hole 15 which would serve as a trap for narrow heels of shoes, stones and so forth.

The present invention consists in a fixing support for a rotary clothes drier which consists of a tube shaped at one (lower) end portion to facilitate its being driven into the ground and having at the other end a portion of reduced diameter thus forming a generally upwardly facing shoulder at the lower end of the portion of reduced diameter, the arrangement being such 25 that in use the portion of reduced diameter serves as a spigot to fit in the open lower end portion of the central post of a rotary clothes drier and the shoulder forms an end support by engagement with the lower end of the central post, an outer tubular shield being fitted on the tube to surround the portion of reduced diameter with a clearance for receiving the lower end portion of the central post when in use.

In the accompanying drawings:—

Figure 1 is a vertical section through one form 35 of fixing support according to the present invention; and

Figures 2 and 3 are sections taken on lines 2—2 and 3—3 of Figure 1 respectively.

In carrying the invention into effect according to one convenient mode by way of example, a fixing support for a rotary clothes drier is formed from a steel tube by inwardly deforming, for example by rolling or die forming, one (lower) end 40 portion 11 of the tube at four places until a cruciform cross-section has been produced as shown in Figures 2 and 3. The extent of the deformation decreases upwardly as may be observed by a comparison of Figures 2 and 3, so 45 that a certain amount of downward inward taper is imparted to the lower portion. At the upper end of the lower portion the deformation causes adjacent to and above the upper end of the lower end portion 11, radial enlargements in the form of 50 slight outward bulges as at 17. Various other configurations of inward deformation may be used, for example so as to produce, in cross-section a number of radially-extending arms, the object being to enable the tube to be hammered or otherwise driven into the ground 12 without undue resistance.

The upper end of the tube is deformed so as to produce a portion 13 of reduced diameter to fit in the lower end portion 14 of the central post of the

clothes drier, the inclined but generally upwardly facing shoulders 15 thus produced at the lower end of the upper end portion 13 serving as an end support, for the central post by engagement with the end of the lower end portion 14.

The upper end of the upper end portion 13 is rolled inwardly and fitted with a plastics plug 16.

Adjacent the upper end of the lower end portion 11 of the tube, the outwardly extending bulges 17 provide a press fit for the lower end of

an outer tubular plastics shield 18 which surrounds the upper end portion 13 with a clearance.

In use the tube is driven into the ground until its top is approximately level with the ground and

there is thus provided a vertically extending spigot upon which the lower end of a tubular central post of a rotary clothes drier can be mounted by insertion into the clearance between the upper end portion 13 and the shield 18 to support the post. The shield 18 prevents the ground from falling into the annular space around the upper end portion 13.

The above arrangement has the advantage that the conventional relatively large diameter hole in

the ground is eliminated thereby reducing the hazard presented by such a hole to narrow heels of shoes, stones, and so forth.

It will be appreciated that the upper end portion 13 need not be circular in cross-section as long as

it is suitable for providing a spigot for supporting the central post.

**CLAIMS**

1. A fixing support for a rotary clothes drier which consists of a tube shaped at one (lower) end portion to facilitate its being driven into the ground and having at the other end a portion of reduced diameter thus forming a generally upwardly facing shoulder at the lower end of the portion of reduced diameter, the arrangement being such that in use the portion of reduced diameter serves as a spigot to fit in the open lower end portion of the central post of a rotary clothes drier and the shoulder forms an end support by engagement with the lower end of the central post, an outer tubular shield being fitted on the tube to surround the portion of reduced diameter with a clearance for receiving the lower end portion of the central post when in use.

2. A fixing support as claimed in claim 1, wherein the outer tubular shield is a fit on the tube adjacent the upper end of the lower end portion.

3. A fixing support as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the lower end portion is inwardly deformed so as to produce in cross-section, a number of radially-extending arms.

4. A fixing support as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the shaping of the lower end portion is achieved by inward deformation of the tube, the effect of the deformation being such as to provide a radial enlargement adjacent to and above the upper end of the lower end portion, which enlargement serves to provide a fit for the outer tubular shield.

5. A fixing support as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the lower end portion tapers inwardly downwardly.
6. A fixing support as claimed in claim 5,  
5 wherein the taper is produced by reducing inward deformation of the tube upwardly.
7. A fixing support as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the tube is closed at its upper end.
- 10 8. A fixing support for a rotary clothes drier, substantially as described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

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